Please replace the abstract of the disclosure beginning on page 110 with the following rewritten version:

-- A damper mechanism 6 is provided to transmit torque while absorbing and damping torsional vibrations. A small coil spring 45 achieves characteristics of a low rigidity in a small torsion angle region of the torsion characteristics when compressed by rotary members. A coil spring 33 achieves characteristics of a high rigidity in a large torsion angle region of the torsion characteristics when compressed by the rotary members rotating relatively to each other. A frictional resistance generating mechanism 7 generates a frictional resistance while each spring is being compressed. Owing to a rotating-direction space 79, the frictional resistance generating mechanism 7 does not operate in portions of the second stage of the torsion characteristics in response to vibrations and also does not in the first stage while a torsion angle is in a predetermined range. --